



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|-----------------|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|
|-----------------|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|

10/550,639

07/10/2006

Petrus Martinus Leonardus Beks

F3332(C)

1939

201 7590 10/27/2008
UNILEVER PATENT GROUP
800 SYLVAN AVENUE
AG West S. Wing
ENGLEWOOD CLIFFS, NJ 07632-3100

EXAMINER

TAPOLCAI, WILLIAM E

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

3744

MAIL DATE

DELIVERY MODE

10/27/2008

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Art Unit: 3744

1. Applicant's arguments filed October 9, 2008 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. The Examiner has clearly met all of the structural limitations of claim 1 in U.S. Patent No. 1,847,544 to Weber. The only claimed differences between the structure recited in claim 1 and Weber are the temperature differences between the freezer cabinet 2 and the external housing 1, and the housing 1 being removable from the cabinet. The temperature differences are considered to be a matter of obvious choice to one of ordinary skill in the art. It is extremely well known to provide a refrigerator cabinet with two compartments and different temperatures in the compartments. For example, household refrigerators routinely have a fresh food compartment and a freezer compartment, each having its own operating temperature different from each other. Applicant has not provided any showing of criticality or unexpected results that would render the claimed temperature differences more than a mere matter of obvious choice to one of ordinary skill in the refrigeration art.

2. Regarding the claimed limitation of the display and dispensing assembly being removable from the freezer cabinet, this is considered to be obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art in the respect that any two compartments can be removed or separated from each other, and then joined back together.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to William E. Tapolcai whose telephone number is (571) 272-4814. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon. - Thurs., 6:30 to 5.

Art Unit: 3744

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Cheryl J. Tyler can be reached on (571) 272-4834. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/William E. Tapolcai/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3744

wet
October 23, 2008